

Todd M. Friedman (SBN 216752)  
 Adrian R. Bacon (SBN 280332)  
 LAW OFFICES OF TODD M. FRIEDMAN, P.C.  
 21550 Oxnard St., Suite 780  
 Woodland Hills, CA 91367  
 Phone: 877-206-4741  
 Fax: 866-633-0228  
 tfriedman@toddfllaw.com  
 abacon@toddfllaw.com  
*Attorneys for Plaintiff*

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
 CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

JEANNE WEINBERG, individually	)	Case No.
and on behalf of all other similarly	)	
situated,	)	<b><u>CLASS ACTION</u></b>
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	<b>COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS</b>
	)	<b>OF:</b>
vs.	)	
	)	<b>(1) Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection</b>
CLARIENT, INC., and DOES 1	)	<b>Practices Act [Cal. Civ. § 1788 et seq.]</b>
through 10, inclusive,	)	
	)	<b><u>DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL</u></b>
Defendant.	)	
	)	
	)	
	)	

Plaintiff, JEANNE WEINBERG (“Plaintiff”), individually, and on behalf of all others similarly situated, brings this action against Defendant, CLARIENT, INC. (“Defendant”), alleging the following upon information and belief based upon personal knowledge:



**PARTIES**

4. Plaintiff is a natural person residing in Ventura County, California who allegedly owed or owes a debt and is thereby a “debtor” under the RFDCPA, Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(h).

5. At all relevant times herein, Defendant was a company engaged, by use of letters, in the business of collecting a debt from Plaintiff and others which qualifies as a “consumer debt” under the RFDCPA, Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(f). Defendant regularly attempts to collect debts alleged to be due them, and therefore is a “debt collector” under the RFDCPA, Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(c).

6. The above named Defendant, and its subsidiaries and agents, are collectively referred to as “Defendants.” The true names and capacities of the Defendants sued herein as DOES 1 through 10, inclusive, are currently unknown to Plaintiff, who therefore sues such Defendants by fictitious names. Each of the Defendants designated herein as a DOE is legally responsible for the unlawful acts alleged herein. Plaintiff will seek leave of Court to amend the Complaint to reflect the true names and capacities of the DOE Defendants when such identities become known.

7. Plaintiff is informed and believes that at all relevant times, each and every Defendant was acting as an agent and/or employee of each of the other

1 Defendants and was acting within the course and scope of said agency and/or  
2 employment with the full knowledge and consent of each of the other Defendants.  
3 Plaintiff is informed and believes that each of the acts and/or omissions complained  
4 of herein was made known to, and ratified by, each of the other Defendants.  
5

### 6 **FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

7  
8 8. Beginning in or around October of 2016, Defendant began contacting  
9 Plaintiff in an effort to collect on an alleged debt.

10  
11 9. During this process, Defendant, in its ordinary course of business,  
12 began sending letters to Plaintiff in an attempt to collect the alleged debt owed.

13  
14 10. These letters were in envelopes that had multiple transparent areas that  
15 allowed anyone to see various aspects of what was on the inside.

16  
17 11. These letters included statements such as “BALANCE PAST DUE”  
18 in bold and highlighted as well as “Billing Office Phone : 855 436-6232” and  
19 “FINAL NOTICE.”

20  
21 12. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant’s conduct, Plaintiff felt  
22 harassed, annoyed, and anxious.

### 23 **CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

24  
25 13. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of herself and all others similarly  
26 situated, as a member of the proposed class (“The Class”) defined as follows:

27  
28 All persons in the United States whom Defendant tried  
to contact via letter in an effort to collect an alleged debt

1 that provided identifying information that the letter was  
2 for the purposes of collection a debt within one (1) year  
3 of filing this complaint.

4 14. Specifically excluded from the proposed Class are Defendant; any  
5 entities in which Defendant has a controlling interest; and the employees, officers,  
6 directors, affiliates, legal representatives, subsidiaries, and affiliates of Defendant.  
7  
8 The Class' claims are based on the RFDCPA.

9 15. This action is brought and may be properly maintained as a class  
10 action. This action satisfies the numerosity, typicality, adequacy, predominance  
11 and superiority requirements for a class action.  
12

13 16. Plaintiff and members of The Class were harmed in the same way,  
14 namely the following: Defendant indicated in their letter to Plaintiff and Class  
15 members that the letters were for the purposes of collecting a past due debt and and  
16 they all felt harassed, annoyed, or anxious as a result of Defendant's conduct.  
17

18 17. The Class is so numerous that the individual joinder of all of its  
19 members is impractical. While the exact number and identities of The Class  
20 members are unknown to Plaintiff at this time and can only be ascertained through  
21 appropriate discovery, Plaintiff is informed and believes and thereon alleges that  
22 The Class includes thousands of members. Plaintiff alleges that The Class members  
23 may be ascertained by the records maintained by Defendant.  
24  
25  
26  
27

28 18. Common questions of fact and law exist as to all members of The

1 Class which predominate over any questions affecting only individual members of  
2 The Class. These common legal and factual questions, which do not vary between  
3 Class members, and which may be determined without reference to the individual  
4 circumstances of any Class members, include, but are not limited to, the following:  
5

- 6 a. Whether Defendant communicated in letters to collect an  
7 alleged debt that provided identifying information that the  
8 letter;  
9
- 10 b. Whether Defendant used unfair and unconscionable means of  
11 collection;  
12
- 13 c. The nature and extent of damages and other remedies to which  
14 the conduct of Defendant entitles The Class members.

15 19. Plaintiff is asserting claims that are typical of The Class because every  
16 other member of The Class, like Plaintiff, were exposed to virtually identical  
17 conduct and are entitled to statutory damages up to \$1,000.00 in addition to actual  
18 damages and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to the RFDCPA.  
19

20 20. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the members  
21 of The Class. Plaintiff has retained attorneys experienced in the prosecution of  
22 class actions.  
23

24 21. A class action is superior to other available methods of fair and  
25 efficient adjudication of this controversy, since individual litigation of the claims  
26 of all Class members is impracticable. Even if every Class member could afford  
27  
28

1 individual litigation, the court system could not. It would be unduly burdensome  
2 to the courts in which individual litigation of numerous issues would proceed.  
3 Individualized litigation would also present the potential for varying, inconsistent,  
4 or contradictory judgments and would magnify the delay and expense to all parties  
5 and to the court system resulting from multiple trials of the same complex factual  
6 issues. By contrast, the conduct of this action as a class action presents fewer  
7 management difficulties, conserves the resources of the parties and of the court  
8 system, and protects the rights of each Class member.  
9  
10  
11

12 22. The prosecution of separate actions by thousands of individual Class  
13 members would also create the risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with  
14 respect to, among other things, the need for and the nature of proper disclosures  
15 which Defendant must provide to all Class members when attempting to collect  
16 alleged debts.  
17  
18

19 23. The prosecution of separate actions by individual Class members  
20 would create a risk of adjudications with respect to them that would, as a practical  
21 matter, be dispositive of the interests of the other Class members not parties to such  
22 adjudications or that would substantially impair or impede the ability of such non-  
23 party Class members to protect their interests.  
24  
25

26 24. Defendant has acted or refused to act in respects generally applicable  
27 to The Class, thereby making appropriate final and injunctive relief with regard to  
28

1 the members of The Class as a whole.

2 **COUNT I: VIOLATION OF THE ROSENTHAL FAIR DEBT**  
3 **COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, CAL. CIV. CODE § 1788 ET SEQ.**  
4 **(By Plaintiff and The Class)**  
5

6 25. Plaintiff hereby incorporates the preceding paragraphs as if set forth  
7 in full.  
8

9 26. Cal. Civ. Code §1788.17 mandates that every debt collector collecting  
10 or attempting to collect a consumer debt shall comply with the provisions of  
11 Sections 1692b to 1692j, inclusive, of, and shall be subject to the remedies in  
12 Section 1692k of, Title 15 of the United States Code statutory regulations contained  
13 within the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. 1692 et seq.  
14  
15

16 27. Based upon the foregoing, Defendant's conduct violated the RFDCPA  
17 in multiple ways, including but not limited to:  
18

- 19 a) Using any language or symbol, other than the debt  
20 collector's address, on any envelope when communicating  
21 with a consumer by use of the mails or by telegram, and  
22  
23 b) Engaging in the use of unconscionable means to collect or  
24 attempt to collect on a debt (15 U.S.C. § 1692f).  
25

26 28. Plaintiff alleges that to the extent that Defendant's actions, counted  
27 above, violated the RFDCPA, those actions were done knowingly and willfully.  
28



1           29. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's violations of  
2 RFDCPA, Plaintiff and the members of The Class have suffered injury, and may  
3 recover from Defendant one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) in statutory damages in  
4 addition to actual damages and reasonable attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to Cal.  
5 Civ. Code § 1788.30.  
6

7           30. The violations of RFDCA described herein present a continuing threat  
8 to members of The Class and members of the general public in that Plaintiff is  
9 informed and believes and thereon alleges that Defendant continues to engage in  
10 these practices, and will not cease doing so unless and until forced to do so by this  
11 Court.  
12  
13  
14

15                           **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**  
16

17           Wherefore, Plaintiff respectfully requests the Court grant Plaintiff and The  
18 Class members the following relief against Defendants, and each of them:  
19

- 20           1. That this action be certified as a class action on behalf of The Class  
21           and Plaintiff be appointed as the representative of The Class;  
22           2. For statutory damages of \$1,000.00 for Plaintiff and each member of  
23           The Class pursuant to Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.30;  
24           3. For actual damages according to proof;  
25           4. For reasonable attorneys' fees and costs of suit;  
26           5. For prejudgment interest at the legal rate; and  
27  
28

1           6. For such further relief as this Court deems necessary, just, and proper.

2                                   **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

3  
4           Plaintiff demands a trial by jury of each and every claim so triable.

5  
6  
7                                   Respectfully submitted,

8                                   Dated: February 10, 2017

9                                   **LAW OFFICES OF TODD M. FRIEDMAN, P.C.**

10  
11   **s/ Todd M. Friedman**

12   Todd M. Friedman

13   Attorneys for Plaintiff